

Contacts: Jack R. Warner, Executive Director and CEO  
[jack.warner@sdbor.edu](mailto:jack.warner@sdbor.edu)

Janelle Toman, Director of Communications  
[Janelle.toman@sdbor.edu](mailto:Janelle.toman@sdbor.edu)

Telephone: (605) 773-3455

Fax: (605) 773-5320

[www.sdbor.edu](http://www.sdbor.edu)

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## **Gov. Dugaard Signs Public University Capital Improvement Plan**

PIERRE, S.D. – Legislative leaders joined representatives of the South Dakota Board of Regents and Gov. Dennis Dugaard March 19 to commemorate the signing of House Bill 1051. The bill authorizes a priority list of building construction projects and infrastructure upgrades to be completed over the next decade as part of the regents' Capital Improvement Plan.

About \$105 million of the total amount will be financed from the state's Higher Education Facilities Fund (HEFF), which is the 20 cents of every tuition dollar students pay dedicated to construction, maintenance, and repair on the campuses. The remainder of the building projects' cost—about \$99.5 million—will be paid for primarily from private donations secured by the universities and their non-profit foundations, along with some federal grants. Seven other projects on the approved list will fix infrastructure issues on the campuses, paying for utility upgrades, energy efficiency projects, mechanical overhauls, and street improvements.

No state tax dollars will go to finance any of these construction or infrastructure projects.

On hand for the ceremony were (from left): Sen. Corey Brown of Gettysburg, Senate Appropriations Committee chair; Sen. Larry Tidemann of Brookings, Senate Appropriations Committee vice chair; Jack Warner, the regents' executive director and CEO; Gov. Dugaard; Regent James Hansen of Pierre; and Monte Kramer, the regents' system vice president of finance and administration.



*Photo by South Dakota Board of Regents*